

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A laptop computer paper support device for removably setting on the top of a laptop computer case and for holding at least one document above a screen on the laptop computer, said laptop computer paper support device comprising:

a support member including a front surface, a top edge, a bottom edge, a left edge, a right edge and a connection axis passing through said left edge and said right edge, wherein said connection axis is substantially perpendicular to said left edge; and

a shelf member pivotally attached at said connection axis to the front surface of said support member, said shelf member including:

a top surface and a bottom surface;

a shelf ledge adapted for maintaining a document upon the top surface of the shelf member, said shelf ledge attached to the top surface and extending upwardly from the top surface at a non-zero angle; and

a shelf flange adapted for setting on the top of a laptop computer case, said shelf flange attached to the bottom surface and extending downwardly from the bottom surface at a non-zero angle;

wherein the shelf member is movable between an open position wherein the shelf member is substantially perpendicular to the support member and a closed position wherein the shelf member is substantially parallel to the support member.

2. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member further includes a first pivot point on the left edge and a second pivot point on the right edge, wherein the first pivot point and the second pivot point lie on the connection axis.

3. The device of claim 2 wherein:

said support member further includes:

a first pivot arch on the left edge, said first pivot arch rounded and extending towards the back surface around the connection axis; and

a second pivot arch on the right edge, said second pivot arch rounded and extending towards the back surface around the connection axis; and

said shelf member further includes:

a first shelf leg on the left side and including a first pivot pin adapted for connection to said first pivot point;

a second shelf leg on the right side and including a pivot pin adapted for connection to said second pivot point;

a first pivot surface on the left side adapted to fit into said first pivot arch for moving said shelf member between said open position and said closed position; and

a second pivot surface on the right side adapted to fit into second pivot arch for moving said shelf member between said open position and said closed position.

4. The device of claim 3 wherein:

said first pivot arch and said second pivot arch include:

a closed position aperture;

an open position aperture; and

a pivot groove between said closed position aperture and said open position aperture;

said first pivot surface and second pivot surface include a locking pin adapted to fit into said closed position apertures and said open position apertures; wherein

said locking pins are fitted into said open position apertures for holding said device in said open position and said locking pins are fitted into said closed position apertures for holding said device in said closed position.

5. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member further includes a shelf support member on the front surface above the connection axis and said shelf member pushes upwardly against said shelf support member when said device is in said open position.

6. The device of claim 1 wherein:  
said support member further includes a shelf leg aperture; and  
said shelf flange includes a shelf leg substantially parallel to said bottom surface of said shelf member;  
wherein said shelf leg extends through said shelf leg aperture when said device is in said closed position.

7. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member is substantially planar.

8. The device of claim 1 wherein the distance from the bottom edge of said support member to said connection axis is less than the distance from the top edge of said support member to said connection axis.

9. The device of claim 1 wherein said shelf member is substantially planar.

10. The device of claim 1 wherein said shelf member has a width substantially the same as said support member.

11. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member is substantially rectangular in shape and said left edge is at least twice as long as said top edge.

12. The device of claim 1 wherein said shelf member:  
is substantially rectangular in shape;  
further includes a left side and a top side; and  
the length of said left side is less than the length of said top side.
13. The device of claim 1 wherein:  
said shelf member includes a bottom side;  
said shelf ledge and said shelf flange are attached; and  
said shelf ledge and said shelf flange are pivotally connected to the bottom side of said  
shelf member via a shelf pivot pin.
14. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member further includes a ruler.
15. The device of claim 1 wherein said device further includes a light for illuminating  
said document.
16. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member further includes a retractable  
extension from said top edge for accommodating tall documents.
17. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member further includes a document clip  
member for holding the document in place.
18. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member further includes one or more  
ring apertures proximate to said left edge or to said right edge.

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19. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member further includes three ring apertures proximate to said left edge or to said right edge, said three ring apertures sized and spaced to accommodate notebook rings from a three ring notebook.

20. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member further includes seven ring apertures proximate to said left edge or to said right edge, said seven ring apertures sized and spaced to accommodate notebook rings from a seven ring notebook.

21. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member further includes a hanging aperture proximate to said to edge for hanging said device.

22. The device of claim 1 wherein said device is made of a plastic material.

23. The device of claim 22 wherein said plastic material is polycarbonate.

24. The device of claim 22 wherein said plastic material is ABS.

25. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member further includes a calculator.

26. The device of claim 1 wherein said support member further includes a cut-out for a gage or measuring device.

27. In combination, a laptop computer and a laptop computer paper support device, said laptop computer comprising:

- a laptop computer case including a top of the laptop computer case; and
- said laptop computer paper support device comprising:

- a support member including a front surface, a top edge, a bottom edge, a left edge, a right edge and a connection axis passing through said left edge and said right edge, wherein said connection axis is substantially perpendicular to said left edge; and

- a shelf member pivotally attached at said connection axis to the front surface of said support member, said shelf member including:

- a top surface and a bottom surface;

- a shelf ledge adapted for maintaining a document upon the top surface of the shelf member, said shelf ledge attached to the top surface and extending upwardly from the top surface at a non-zero angle; and

- a shelf flange adapted for setting on the top of the laptop computer case, said shelf flange attached to the bottom surface and extending downwardly from the bottom surface at a non-zero angle;

- wherein the shelf member is movable between an open position wherein the shelf member is substantially perpendicular to the support member and a closed position wherein the shelf member is substantially parallel to the support member.

28. A method for utilizing a laptop computer paper support device for removably setting on the top of a laptop computer case and for holding at least one document above a screen on the laptop computer; said method comprising:

receiving the laptop computer paper support device in a closed position, wherein said device comprises:

laptop computer paper support device comprising:

a support member including a front surface, a top edge, a bottom edge, a left edge, a right edge and a connection axis passing through said left edge and said right edge, wherein said connection axis is substantially perpendicular to said left edge; and

a shelf member pivotally attached at said connection axis to the front surface of said support member, said shelf member including:

a top surface and a bottom surface;

a shelf ledge adapted for maintaining a document upon the top surface of the shelf member, said shelf ledge attached to the top surface and extending upwardly from the top surface at a non-zero angle; and

a shelf flange adapted for setting on the top of a laptop computer case, said shelf flange attached to the bottom surface and extending downwardly from the bottom surface at a non-zero angle;

wherein the shelf member is movable between an open position wherein the shelf member is substantially perpendicular to the support member and the closed position wherein the shelf member is substantially parallel to the support member; moving said device into said open position; and

setting said device on the top of the laptop computer case.